

Message Text

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ACTION L-01

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 INR-05 CIAE-00 EB-03
DLOS-02 ARA-06 AF-04 NEA-07 EA-06 IO-06 SAL-01 NSC-05
NSCE-00 OES-02 PRS-01 USIA-01 /073 W
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R 181605Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3205
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 0806

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS PBOR, PFOR, ICJ, CA
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE CANADA-U.S. ICJ SUBMISSION ON OFFSHORE BOUNDARY
QUESTION

REF: A) STATE 5301, B) 76 MOSCOW 19982

1. EMBASSY BIO DATA ON SOVIET MEMBER OF ICJ, PLATON
DMITRIYEVICH MOROZOV, PREDATES HIS APPOINTMENT TO ICJ
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AND WE HAVE NO RECORD OF EMBASSY CONTACTS WITH
HIM. SINCE HE SERVED FOR MANY YEARS WITH SOVIET
MISSION TO UN AND IS APPARENTLY RECOGNIZED SOVIET
AUTHORITY ON INTERNATIONAL LEGAL MATTERS, WE PRESUME
DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE MORE RECENT BIO INFORMATION.
WE SUSPECT THAT MOROZOV'S LEGAL
PHILOSOPHY IS OF LESS IMPORTANCE THAN

SOVIET ATTITUDES ABOUT ENTIRE QUESTION
OF OFFSHORE ZONES (CONTINENTAL SHELF, ECONOMIC AND
FISHING), AS MOROZOV WILL CERTAINLY NOT STRAY FAR FROM SOVIET
OFFICIAL POLICY. OUR MOST RECENT THOUGHTS ON SOVIET POLICY ON
SUCH ZONES IS CONTAINED IN REF B.

2. WASHINGTON EXPERTS MAY WISH TO CONSIDER POSSIBILITY
THAT TWO CURRENT DISPUTES MENTIONED IN REF B WILL
PLACE USSR CLOSER TO WHAT WE UNDERSTAND FROM REF A IS
U.S. POSITION IN OUR DISPUTE WITH CANADA. FIRST, IN
SOVIET DISPUTE WITH NORWAY OVER DEMARCATION LINE IN
BARENTS SEA, NORWAY, LIKE CANADA, IS PRESSING FOR
ACCEPTANCE OF EQUIDISTANT LINE, WHILE SOVIETS REJECT
THIS AND INSIST ON SECTOR LINE. SECONDLY, IN TALKS
WITH SWEDES ABOUT DEFINITION OF CONTINENTAL SHELF IN
BALTIC SEA, SOVIETS HAVE INSISTED ON LARGER SEGMENT
OF SHELF THAN SWEDEN ON GROUNDS THAT SOVIET ADJACENT
AREAS ARE LARGER AND SOVIET EXPLOITATION OF SHELF IS
GREATER (APPARENTLY A PROPORTIONALITY ARGUMENT).

3. FINALLY, WE WOULD LIKE TO BALANCE HOPEFUL NOTE
IN PARA TWO BY RECALLING THAT SOVIETS HAVE BEEN
PRESENTED WITH SEVERAL PRECEDENTS BY SWEDES WHICH
TEND TO UNDERCUT SOVIET POSITION ON BALTIC SHELF, AND
SOVIET RESPONSE HAS BEEN TO DENY VALIDITY OF PRECEDENT
IN SUCH CASES. THEY ARGUE THAT EACH CASE MUST BE
LOOKED AT ENTITY WITHOUT REFERENCE TO PRECEDENTS.
SUCH A POSITION ENSHRINES EMPIRICAL SOLUTIONS, AND
SUGGESTS THAT SOVIET VIEWS ON U.S.--CANADIAN CASE MAY
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NOT FOLLOW DIRECTLY FROM THOSE EXPRESSED PREVIOUSLY ON
OTHER ISSUES. TOON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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